



LARC



Volume 58, Number 03

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC., INC. - a 501(c)3 Corporation

March 2018

WINTER FIELD DAY 2018

I would like to thank everyone who participated in this year's Winter Field Day at the farm of Steve Webre AF5VR. Despite the rainy conditions, everyone had a great time.

We started on the afternoon of Friday January 26 by getting the tower up. We figured with the incoming rain, we would have better luck with a task in drier conditions. It was a good thing we planned it as we caught nearly 2 inches of rain on Saturday. In addition to setting up the tower trailer we were able to also replace the corroded locks on the trailer and on AMOSII. Twelve (12) locks were replaced and all keyed-alike to eliminate the tracking of keys.

Saturday morning rolled around and we all started to arrive. Present at 0800 was Steve AF5VR, David KG5JHR, Glen KF5FNP, Tom W5OHJ, and myself N5MCY. After a hot cup of coffee and a sugar rush from Meche's Donuts, we began getting things in order.

Glen and I set up our Go-Kits while Tom and David paid particular attention to AMOSII and started making final adjustments to the beam and rotator. Steve, on the other hand, was supplying all of us with assistance, tools, and general adult supervision while we children set up our toys. Everything thus far was going according to plan.

The rain was coming down at a steady pace, but with no lightening in the area, we were able to make a few test calls and make all the final adjustments. After about an hour, Bobby KG5KFK arrive, and shortly thereafter Brandon KG5LQM. We did a few short demos and made a good attempt to stick to the prearranged schedule we had made. Big thanks to David KG5JHR for installing all the software on the new laptops. Everything was installed successfully and bench tested in a controlled environment for function. We set up an 80 Meter dipole that had been stored in the antenna trailer, but we later discovered it was in disrepair and would need to be replaced. We will be including this with the future antenna building session that we will have when weather permits.

After about an hour of setting up and making a few test calls, we noticed an issue with an unexplained noise showing up in the AMOSII trailer. We all put our heads together and started to troubleshoot the rogue noise, and by the process of elimination, we decided that the noise was coming from the antenna. So we all geared up with rain suits and down came the antenna. Upon initial inspection, we noticed a failing air choke attached to the driven element of the tri-band antenna, so we unplugged it and did a little troubleshooting on it. We took it inside only to discover that the braided/ground side of the coax was broken and was not making a good contact. We were able to re-splice the coax and make up a good connection. We reinstalled, winched the antenna back up in the air and we were in business. ZERO noise present inside the AMOSII.

Tom hosted a short demo on the 80/40 NVIS antenna.

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### **GENERAL MEETING**

**March 1, 2018 @ 7:00 PM**

**Lafayette Science Museum 433 Jefferson St. Lafayette, LA**

**[www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/](http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/)**

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**Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.  
P. O. Box 51174**

**Lafayette, LA 70505-1174**

## DATES TO REMEMBER

### GENERAL MEETING

**March 1, 2018 @ 7:00 PM**

Lafayette Science Museum

433 Jefferson Street

Lafayette, LA

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/>

### Local 2-Meter Nets

**Monday**

**AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM**

146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**Tuesday**

**Region 4 SkyWarn/ARES Net 7:00 PM**

145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

**Wednesday**

**Silent Key Memorial Net 6:30 PM**

145.410 No PL New Iberia, LA

**Thursday**

**Youth Net 7:00 PM**

146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

EchoLink Node: 370324

### AARA OFFICERS 2017 - 2018

**President - Eric Credeur KG5JHP**

[eric@ericcredeur.com](mailto:eric@ericcredeur.com)

**Vice Pres. - Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD**

**Secretary - Ramona Jobe KG5HNO**

**Treasurer - Tom Dischler W5OHJ**

#### BOARD MEMBERS

**Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP**

**Chris Ancelet N5MCY**

**Paula Romero KF5CNS**

#### YOUTH MEMBER

**Page Romero KG5VPR**

#### QSL MANAGER

**Roland Guidry - NA5Q**

### PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

**Herman Campbell - KN5GRK**

337-234-5364 [kn5grk@lusfiber.net](mailto:kn5grk@lusfiber.net)

### AARA REPEATER GROUP

**Charlie Morrison N5WE - Trustee**

**Derek Meche WM5TS**

**Dave Redfern N4ELM**

**Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP**

### LCARC DELEGATES

**Fred Marshall W5MLE**

**Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP**

### NEWSLETTER EDITOR

**Joseph "Moe" Meaux - K2JDM**

[jdmeaux2002@gmail.com](mailto:jdmeaux2002@gmail.com)

Barrett KG5SSO arrived after lunch and teamed up with Brandon KG5LQM, and they manned the tri-band antenna and started causing pileups on 20m. Overall, they were able to log over 160+ contacts in a short amount of time. It was good to see them man the radio and get some good experience in a no-pressure environment. You could tell that both were having a good time. Each pass we made outside, you could hear..."Roger that, please copy 1H-LA Louisiana. 73" Several contacts were made by Brandon and Barrett with some being as close as Mississippi and Texas, and some as far as Alaska. All in all, I think they got a good taste of what Summer Field Day can get like and we are sure looking forward to those two guys manning AMOSII this summer.

So, despite the gloomy conditions and the near 2-inch rainfall out in the country, we managed to make the 2018 Winter Field Day successful. From troubleshooting noise, keeping up with local radar, soldering new connections in an air hike, making 160+ contacts, and surviving a sugar induced coma, I would say that the event was successful. We plan on hosting more events like this in the future, so please stay tuned to a radio near you.

73,

N5MCY Chris Ancelet



**February 2018**

**VE TEST  
SESSION**



*This evening's session was a success; 3 in and 3 out with CSCE's in hand.*

*Those tested were:*

*Patrick M. Taylor of Maurice who earn his Tech license KG5YFR,*

*Martin T. Benoit of Lake Charles earned his General License KG5YFS, & Mathew O. Higginbotham of Opelousas earned his General License KG5YFT.*

*Congratulations to all three.*

*The VEs were:*

*Greg ~ K5LFT*

*Galen ~ KF5BET*

*Dave ~ N4ELM*

*Thanks to all.*



**58th Acadiana Hamfest 2018**

**Louisiana State Convention**

**HAMFEST/CONVENTION**

**Friday March 9, 2018 & Saturday March 10, 2018**

**Location: Rayne Civic Center**

**210 Frog Festival Drive**

**Rayne, LA 70578**

**Website: [www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/](http://www.w5ddl.org/hamfest/)**

**Sponsor: Acadiana Amateur Radio Association, Inc.**

**Type: ARRL Convention**

**Talk-In: 146.820 (PL 103.5) Earthlink Node: 759629**

The club is once again sponsoring the Elecraft Volunteer Table. Elecraft will be providing banners and equipment brochures.

Volunteers are needed to setup and display their Elecraft equipment.

I will be coordinating signup list and will be at the hamfest both days. I will also be bringing a KX3, KX1, and K1-4 for display/demo.

Please let me know if you are coming to volunteer at the table and if you will be bringing gear.

Thanks!

73

Dave Redfearn

ARS N4ELM





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FEBRUARY 2018 AARA GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

February 1, 2018

Eric Credeur KG5JHP, AARA President presided over the February 1, 2018 General Meeting which met at 7:00 PM at the Lafayette Science Museum.

- ~ Opening prayer by Tom W5OHJ.
- ~ Pledge of Allegiance by all and in Cajun French by Sandy KE5KJF.
- ~ A motion was made to accept the January 4, 2018 minutes by Brandon KG5LQM and seconded by Kathy KD5LTJ and accepted by the majority.
- ~ The January Treasurer's Report by Tom W5OHJ. The Treasurer's Report was not published in the LARC newsletter. However, if you are a club member. Contact Tom W5OHJ if you desire a copy. A motion as made to accept the report by Danny KD5JSM, seconded by Derek WM5TS, and accepted by the majority.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

OFFICERS ELECTION – Tom W5OHJ (Election Committee Chairman) presented their slate at this time. [The committee consists of Chris N5MCY, Jackie KF5PCH, and Herman KN5GRK. You must be a paid-up club member in order to run and vote.] The slate is as follows:

President - Chris Ancelet N5MCY; V. President – Larry LeBlaanc KE5KJD; Treasurer – Tom Dischler W5OHJ; and Secretary – David McCutcheon KG5JHR. Board Members are: Paula Romero KF5CNS, Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, and Steve Webre AF5VR. Former President Eric Credeur KG5JHP will automatically become a board member. The Public Information Officer will remain as Herman Campbell KN5GRK, and LARC Newsletter Editor will be Joseph “Moe” Meaux K2JDM. The Youth Member is to be appointed by the new club president.

No nominations were made from the floor, and elections were held. The above persons were elected by a majority vote. And the new officers are:

President – Chris Ancelet N5MCY

V. President – Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD

Treasurer – Tom Dischler W5OHJ

Secretary – David McCutcheon KG5JHR

Board Members – Paula Romero KF5CNS, Glen Thibodeaux KF5FNP, and Steve Webre AF5VR.

The new officers will be installed at the Hamfest Banquest held on Saturday March 17, 2018. See the AARA Constitution to see the duties of officers at: [www.w5ddl.org/bylaws/bylaws2007.htm](http://www.w5ddl.org/bylaws/bylaws2007.htm)

CLUB DUES – Tom W5OHJ mentioned that club dues needed to be paid now and no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>. If you have not paid your dues by March 1<sup>st</sup>, you will be dropped from the membership roster, member club functions, and member reflector. You have a 90 day window to pay your dues, January 1<sup>st</sup> to March 1<sup>st</sup>.

2018 HAMFEST – Brandon Stelly KG5LQM, hamfest coordinator, gave a report of the status at this point and everything is shaping up, even though we had a slightly late start. Still waiting on getting “Radiowavz” confirmation, and have added a newcomer “Mastrant” to our vendor list (and probably a few more later on). The Sweet Shop is looking for donations (no cup cakes, please), and they will be adding a “sugar free” addition to their menu. Tom will again be in charge of the “start-up” monies for raffle ticket sales, sweet shop. Bingo, etc. Forum schedule times are not determined at this time, but will include ARRL, ARES, SkyWarn, Louisiana Contest Club, Louisiana Council of Amateur Radio Clubs, and maybe some others. Crawfish pricing will depend on the market price at the time of the hamfest. The price will be \$24.00 per serving, and the amount may vary. (If the price is down, you may get more than 4 pounds. If the price is up, you may get slightly less than 4 pounds.) A discussion on promoting our Hamfest through the new media was made. Paul N5KNY will update and supply the large front door sign at the Rayne Civic Center. Brandon requested that any changes that need to be addressed concerning the Hamfest need to be directed to him, and any changes to the Hamfest webpage should go to Herman KN5GRK.

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AMOS II & TRAILER HOUSING UPDATE: Chris N5MCY gave a pricing on housing AMOS II and Trailer at his QTH as discussed at the January meeting. The price quoted was \$3,600 for the building and electrical service. Sandy KE5KJF made a motion that the club accept the proposal and was seconded by ????, and approved by the membership.

DOOR PRIZES:: Presented by Romona KG5HNO.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 PM, all agreed.

Minutes by: Herman Campbell KN5GRK

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### **Louisiana Elects New Section Manager**

02/20/2018

ARRL members in Louisiana have elected John Mark Robertson, K5JMR, as Section Manager for the next 2-year term of office that starts on April 1. Robertson, of Bossier City, out-pollied incumbent Section Manager Scott Wren, KD5DFL, 341 to 148 votes. Wren, of Pineville, has served as SM since April 2016. Ballots were counted and verified at ARRL Headquarters on Tuesday, February 20. This was the only contested Section Manager election this winter.

An ARRL Life Member and radio amateur since 2008, Robertson currently serves as Louisiana Section Emergency Coordinator. He is a past president and board member of the Shreveport Amateur Radio Association and the current secretary of the Amateur Radio Club of Shreveport. He is also a director of the Louisiana Council of Amateur Radio Clubs (Frequency Coordination), an active member of the Shreveport Digital Team, and a charter member of the Minden Amateur D-STAR.

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### **Louisiana Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) Activities Report for 2017**

By Mark Robertson K5JMR Louisiana Section Emergency Coordinator (SEC)

February 23, 2018

The ARRL, national organization for amateur radio, has compiled a year end report for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) activities in 2017. The report shows the overall value of amateur radio as a partner in emergency and public service communication.

Nationally, there were 31,322 members (a 12% increase from last year). More ARRL sections have been reporting than ever before, so you'd expect that number to be up.

There were 34,125 ARES nets

Drills training and tests: 42,838

Public service: 5,730

Emergencies: 1,913

Skywarn: 1,198

Total monetary value ( at \$24.14) \$17,354,958

LOUISIANA reported 335 members, with 898 events and a contribution of \$248,835. Our ARES members invested 10,308 hours in service to your communities!! This, with our reporting record of 100%.

Considering this by FEMA region, ARES is in the strongest position nationally with the most members, by far the most events and volunteer hours. The total ARES contribution as Region 6 is \$1,769,872. Region 6 is NM, TX, OK, AR, LA.

These are great numbers for ARES in LOUISIANA. With major events such as hurricanes, etc..... our LOUISIANA Section ARES is a consistently active organization- showing that we have the training and track record to be a valid partner!

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## KE5COV Mike Ancona – Silent Key



Mike Ancona KE5COV of Baldwin, Louisiana became a SK on Wednesday February 7, 2018. I don't know much about Mike other than he was usually found on most of the repeaters in the Acadiana area and participated in volunteering on some of the local Special Event stations such as the Tour du Teche Canoe Race, Black Bear, and several other events and nets. Keep Mike and family in your prayers, It is always bad news when we loose one of our ham radio friends.

Herman  
KN5GRK

Michael John Ancona, a native of Franklin and a 47 year resident of Baldwin, passed away at the age of 72 on Wednesday, February 7, 2018, at the Franklin Health Care Center with his family by his side. Michael was born on March 3, 1945, one of five children born to the late Anthony Ancona and the late Emily Mangano Ancona. In August 1966, at the age of 21, he was drafted into the United States Army and served in Germany during the Vietnam War until being honorably discharged in October of 1968. A loving husband, father, grandfather, and brother, Michael was also a hard worker, making a lifelong career in the Construction Industry to provide for his family's needs. Some of his favorite pastimes were fishing and being a ham radio operator.

He will be deeply missed and lovingly remembered by his wife of 45 years, Theresa A. Falterman Ancona; four children, Shawn Hargrave of Youngsville, Jonathan Hebert of Lafayette, Jennifer Broussard and her husband Ray of Lake Arthur, and Michele Sarradet and her husband Patrick of Broussard; five grandchildren, Marissa Hebert, Brett Hebert, Haille Hotard, Nicolas Sarradet, and Micah Sarradet; three brothers, Frank Ancona and his wife Delores, Angelo Ancona and his wife Linda, and Ben Ancona Sr. and his wife Pat; his twin sister, Mary Bienek and her husband Gilbert Sr.; as well as numerous nieces and nephews.

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### Jim Lachaussie, Sr. W5JLJ - Silent Key



It is with sad news that we have lost another one of our amateur radio members. Jim Lachaussie, Sr. W5JLJ became a Silent Key on February 16, 2018 at the age of 87. Jim, a native of New Iberia, Louisiana since 1940, graduated from New Iberia High School in 1948, enrolled at LSU that same year, Jim enlisted in the USAF in January 1951 where he attended Radio Operator School at Keesler AFB, upon graduation he became a Morse Code instructor at the school.

Serving in Korea in 1951, he became a member of a three man team providing close air support to various front line infantry units, then reassigned to a radar station in Wisconsin in early 1953 where he remained until discharged in 1955 and that is where he met and married his wife Marline.

Jim's passions were ham radio, computer programming and genealogy. He was a member of the "Longwire Group" which meets on 80 and 40 meters, a former net control operator for the Gulf Coast Sideband Net and could usually be found on the 145.410 repeater in Lydia, Louisiana. Jim held a Advanced Class license and was formally licensed as WB3GWS. His personal website page can be found at: <http://www.lachaussie.net/>

It was Jim's request that his body be donated to science and no funeral service held, however a small private dinner was hosted by his widow Marline with only close friends attending.

## February 2018 AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS

| NET                       | SESSIONS: | TOTAL CHECK-INS: | TOTAL TRAFFIC: | TOTAL TIME: Minutes | Net Manager                  |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|----------------|---------------------|------------------------------|
| AARA Monday Night Net     | 3         | 34               | 0              | 75                  | N5KNY Paul                   |
| Region 4 SkyWarn/ARES Net | 4         | 51               | 0              | 108                 | KF5FNP Glen                  |
| Silent Key Memorial Net   | 4         | 31               | 0              | 51                  | KG5HNO Ramona                |
| Youth Thursday Night Net  | 4         | 0                | 0              | 0                   | KF5BEW Abbi<br>KF5FYS Kendra |

*We must use time wisely and forever realize that the time is always ripe to do right.  
~ Nelson Mandela*

### AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net Rotation

Beginning January 2018, the net will not be rotating between repeaters but the Net Control Operators will rotate each week and held on the 146.820 W5DDL repeater only.

During 2018, if you check into the net you will receive one (1) point, if you stay for the 73 round, you will receive an extra point for a total of two (2). At the end of 2018, persons with the top score will receive a nice prize from the club, in case of a tie, a drawing will be held to chose a winner.

In case of a repeater failure, the alternate repeater will be the W5EXI repeater.

The March 2018 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website at:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/news/htm>

| DATE:      | TIME:   | REPEATER:     | PL TONE: | NCS          |
|------------|---------|---------------|----------|--------------|
| 02/05/2018 | 7:00 PM | 146.820 W5DDL | 103.5    | Danny KD5JSM |
| 02/12/2018 | 7:00 PM | 146.820 W5DDL | 103.5    | Paul N5KNY   |
| 02/19/2018 | 7:00 PM | 146.820 W5DDL | 103.5    | Eric KG5JHP  |
| 02/26/2018 | 7:00 PM | 146.820 W5DDL | 103.5    |              |



#### UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

|      |        |          |
|------|--------|----------|
| 3/04 | KG5PUM | SHANE    |
| 3/04 | KG5PHJ | EUGENE   |
| 3/05 | KG5PHK | DONALD   |
| 3/11 | KG5RSR | BENJAMIN |
| 3/13 | K5FNQ  | ART      |
| 3/13 | K5NCA  | BILL     |
| 3/15 | KG5SIO | JUSTIN   |
| 3/16 | KK6EWB | INGO     |
| 3/19 | KG5QKG | GARY     |
| 3/21 | KG5JHP | ERIC     |
| 3/31 | N0JA   | JOHN     |
| 4/06 | KE5JXC | ARNOLD   |
| 4/07 | KB1NRO | MICHAEL  |

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.

### REGION 4 ARES / SKYWARN NET

Each Tuesday night at 7:00 PM (local), the Region 4 ARES / SkyWarn Net will take place on the 145.370 SkyWarn repeater in Lafayette. Net Control Operators will alternate each week. You do not have to be a ARES member to participate. In case the 145.370 repeater fails, the net will be held on the 146.820 W5DDL repeater PL Tone 103.5.

The March schedule can be found at this link:

<http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/news/htm>

When using the SkyWarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL Tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8 - Central 103.5.

### TIME TO PAY YOUR 2018 AARA DUES

Go to the [w5ddl.org](http://w5ddl.org) website, click on the "Membership Application" link, print and fill out the form and mail check to the address on the application.

*Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.*  
*P. O. Box 51174*  
*Lafayette, LA 70505-1174*  
*Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>*



*Share the Fun -  
Bring a Friend to be a  
HAM !*

## **New and Improved HAM RADIO**

**COMPLIMENTARY  
ISSUE**



## **BASIC SUGAR COOKIES**

|                                   |                      |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|
| 2 cups unsalted butter – softened | 2 cups sugar         |
| 2 tsp vanilla extract             | 1 tsp almond extract |
| 2 eggs                            | 4 tsp baking powder  |
| 6 cups flour                      |                      |

Preheat oven at 350 degrees.

Cream butter and sugar in a large mixing bowl until smooth. Beat in extracts and eggs. In a separate bowl, combine baking powder and flour. Add flour mix in small patches to wet ingredients. If mixture gets too stiff, kneed by hand. Roll on floured surface about 1/4-inch thick, sprinkle with sugar, and cut into cookies.

Place on ungreased cookie sheet and cook at 350 degrees for 6-8 minutes. Allow to cool to remain firm before removing from sheet. Allow to completely cool before adding frosting if so desired.

I was surprised to learn that this recipe has less carbs and calories than most “sugar-free” and “fat-free” cookies. Moe K2JDM

## **FCC Information Service**

*Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur  
Radio license inquiries about new/  
vanity call signs: 1-888-225-5322  
This will connect you the FCC Na-  
tional Call Center, handled by the  
FCC’s Consumer Information Bu-  
reau. Amateurs having ULS prob-  
lems or questions should contact  
the FCC’s ULS Technical Support  
staff at: 202-414-1250 or:  
[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov).*

**FCC Website:**

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

*New call sign information can  
also be obtained from the ARRL/  
VEC at 860-594-3000.*

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

*The mailing address to the FCC  
is:*

*Federal Communications Commis-  
sion,  
445 12th Street SW  
Washington, DC 20554*